

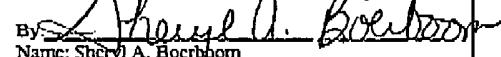
S/N 10/043,827

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-------------------|--|-----------------|--------------|
| Applicant: | SWART ET AL. | Examiner: | D. BECKER |
| Serial No.: | 10/043,827 | Group Art Unit: | 1761 |
| Filed: | JANUARY 11, 2002 | Docket No.: | 163.1386USU1 |
| Confirmation No.: | 7890 | Customer No.: | 23552 |
| Title: | METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR REDUCING MICROBIAL BURDEN ON A FOOD PRODUCT | | |

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d):

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on July 8, 2004.

By 
Name: Sheryl A. Boerboom

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

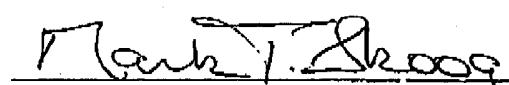
In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that a 1-month extension of time be granted in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action mailed April 6, 2004, said period of response being extended from July 6, 2004 to August 6, 2004.

Please charge our Deposit Account No. 13-2725 in the amount of \$110.00 to cover the required extension fee for a large entity.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
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(612) 332-5300

Date: July 8, 2004


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23552
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